

EUROPEAN CHAINSAW STANDARDS: 2015

ECS (Tension): SIMULATION OF SEVERING timber under heavy tension-

This unit is appropriate for chainsaw operators who do not have access to e.g. windblown trees for training or assessment, or are cutting timber under heavy tension in their work situation. The timber will be horizontal or near horizontal in aspect.

What the chainsaw operator must be able to do: (Practical Test-Recommended guide bar size 30-38cm & maximum time allowed 1hr)
Minimum pre-requisite: ECC1

		Diagnostic tools					
		Written	Practical	Oral	Other	Critical	
ECS (T)-1	TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF (PPE) AND OTHERS AROUND YOU AT WORK - Candidate to wear appropriate PPE, sign RA & show ID:	√	√				1
1:1	Chainsaw safety trousers		√			√	1:1
1:2	Chainsaw safety boots		√			√	1:2
1:3	Safety helmet		√			√	1:3
1:4	Eye & ear protection		√			√	1:4
1:5	Gloves appropriate to task		√				1:5
1:6	Non-snag outer clothing		√				1:6
1:7	Personal /Squad First Aid Kit - on work site		√			√	1:7
1:8	Whistle/Mobile/Radio		√				1:8
ECS (T)-2	PLANNING THE WORK INCLUDING WHAT TO DO IF THERE IS AN EMERGENCY - Candidate to identify hazards relevant to the site & trees:	√	√				2
2:1	Risk Assessment		√				2:1
2:2	Method statement		√				2:2
2:3	Emergency planning		√				2:3
ECS (T)-3	OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS - Candidate to check chainsaw for condition/sharpness etc and pre-use safety:	√	√				3
3:1	Cold/Warm start method (ground/'leg lock')		√				3:1
3:2	Safe start distance from fuel (min.1m or greater according to national guidance)		√				3:2
3:3	Chain brake tested with saw running		√			√	3:3
3:4	Saw checked for oiling (e.g. oil throw test or oil present on drive links)		√				3:4
3:5	Chain not moving when throttle released (no chain creep)		√				3:5
3:6	On/off switch is working (pull choke to stop if not, then label not to be used)		√				3:6
3:7	Chain tension 'warm' re-checked		√				3:7
ECS (T)-4	MEET LEGAL & SITE ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH NATIONAL STANDARDS - Candidate to check specifications:	√	√				4
4.1	Protection of fauna, flora, wildlife, waterways, site specifications etc, regards pollution/damage:		√			√	4.1

ECS (T)-5	SIMULATE SEVERING TREE ROOT-PLATES USING APPROPRIATE CUTS ON TENSIONED TIMBER SECTIONS UNDER EFFECTIVE GUIDE BAR DIAMETER	✓	✓				5
	Candidate to demonstrate 2 different cuts to sever a minimum of 3 tensioned timber sections using appropriate cuts from: 1. Boring technique; 2. V-cut 3. Stepped cuts. 3 different tension/compression situations need to be simulated: 1. Tension above 2. Tension below; 3. Side tension						
5:1	Check risk to the operator from the tensioned timber sections springing (including sideways)		✓			✓	5:1
5:2	Identify tension and compression in timber sections and select severing methods		✓			✓	5:2
5:3	Sever timber section with simulated tension safely using a technique involving boring cuts if appropriate		✓			✓	5:3
5:4	Sever timber section with simulated tension safely using a technique involving 'V'-style cuts		✓			✓	5:4
5:5	Sever timber section with simulated tension safely using a technique involving stepped cuts		✓			✓	5:5
5:6	Site left safe & tidy		✓				5:6

ECS (Tension): - SIMULATION							
What the chainsaw operator must know and understand: (Theory Test) Tension							
1	Demonstrate knowledge of safety considerations and legal requirements when dealing with timber under heavy tension	✓		✓	✓	✓	1
2	Demonstrate knowledge of safety regarding overhead and underground services when dealing with timber under heavy tension	✓		✓	✓	✓	2
3	Describe the features of tension and compression in the timber to be considered when dealing with timber under heavy tension	✓		✓	✓	✓	3
4	Demonstrate knowledge of when it is appropriate to use aid tools when dealing with timber under heavy tension	✓		✓	✓	✓	4
5	Demonstrate knowledge of where winches may be used when dealing with timber under heavy tension	✓		✓	✓	✓	5
6	Demonstrate knowledge of additional safety considerations that may be needed when dealing with timber under heavy tension	✓		✓	✓	✓	6
7	Demonstrate knowledge of other types of uprooted or damaged trees that will require specialist methods	✓		✓	✓	✓	7
8	Demonstrate knowledge of alternative methods of restraining timber under heavy tension	✓		✓	✓	✓	8
9	Demonstrate knowledge of methods of dealing with timber that has side tension	✓		✓	✓	✓	9
10	Demonstrate knowledge of severing timber under heavy tension, working on slopes	✓		✓	✓	✓	10
11	Demonstrate knowledge of severing timber under heavy tension, working with a range of timber types, hazardous and/or damaged timber	✓		✓	✓	✓	11
12	Demonstrate knowledge of identifying safety points when planning work, cutting timber under heavy tension (e.g. the order of operation)	✓		✓	✓	✓	12
13	Demonstrate knowledge of safety requirements where machinery is to be used	✓		✓	✓	✓	13
		Written	Practical	Oral	Other	Critical	